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EXAMINER

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Continuation of Box 11:**

1. With respect to the art rejections based on Yuji et al. (JP 2002-110245 herein after JP245) in view of Nakagawa et al. (WO 01/75991) (US 2003/0064282A1 to Nakagawa et al. is relied upon as an equivalent document for convenience), Applicant argues following:
2. Applicant argues that JP'245 discloses a **polymer** is applied to the surface of the porous film substrate. In contrast, Nakagawa discloses a crosslinked material layer formed of a **monomer** that is formed on a porous material. It appears that Applicant seems to assert that Nakagawa discloses that "monomer" solution that is applied to a porous membrane and the monomer is then crosslinked; whereas the primary reference of JP'245 discloses a **polymer** that is applied to the porous film substrate. Therefore, Applicant concludes that it would be difficult to combine a porous substrate disclosed in Nakagawa with the polymer disclosed in JP'245. The Examiner respectfully disagrees for the following reasons:
3. At paragraph 0024, Nakagawa discloses "The aforementioned crosslinked material layer has a **polymer skeleton** crosslinked by the polymerization of the aforementioned crosslinkable monomer and thus exhibits an excellent durability against high temperature and repetition of temperature change and can maintain its structure over an extended period of time.". Therefore, to the Examiner Nakagawa discloses a formation of a **polymer** layer on the porous substrate. Accordingly, Applicant's arguments are not found persuasive.

/A. D./

Examiner, Art Unit 1794